Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services Biennial Report







Hope. Connection. Help. Healing.

The Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental, & Intellectual Disabilities (**DBHDID**) works with the community mental health center (**CMHC**) system and state facilities to develop and improve linguistically accessible and culturally affirmative services for individuals who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deaf-Blind.



702,000

12%

Kentuckians have a hearing loss.

More Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deaf-Blind Kentuckians were served in CMHCs this biennium than in 2017-2018. DBHDID offers frequent training for behavioral health providers, interpreters, and community members to increase access to healthcare education and expand the capacity of our system of care partners.

Treatment, Case Management, & Recovery Services

DBHDID strives to increase access to direct services available in American Sign Language or delivered by people knowledgeable about the needs of individuals who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deaf-Blind.



145

Deaf Individuals received services from an ASL-fluent provider



2,709

Individual Therapy Sessions provided by Deaf Mental Health Specialists



287

Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services delivered through qualified interpreters



170+

Substance Use Treatment or Mutual Support Sessions paid for through the CMHC Enhanced Access program



DBHDID partnered to develop **culturally-specific information** on finding **substance use treatment** support. See https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmqQhFahaow

DBHDID collaborated with KY Hands & Voices to adapt the **Parent Cafe** model for families with children who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deaf-Blind.

DBHDID expanded to have **5 Deaf Certified Peer Support Specialists** available to offer culturally affirmative and linguistically accessible services.



23%

More children and youth with hearing loss served by CMHCs this biennium.



Partnerships with state agencies and community organizations helped address issues like the needs of older adults, families involved in the child welfare system, and the unique impacts of the coronavirus on the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind communities. To learn more about how we address the Four Pillars of CHFS, check out the CHFS Community Podcast.





Creating an Equitable System of Care







1

Meaningfully involve

Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind Individuals and communities in the design and delivery of services.

2

Identify and consistently meet the Language Access Needs of each individual served in CMHCs, state facilities, and waiver programs.

Continually collaborate to optimize resources, and cocreate a service delivery

system that is inclusive and effective for all.

5

Identify and meet the needs of the 5% of CMHC consumers with intellectual disabilities who also have hearing loss.

Address the impact of the recent 31% increase of individuals with substance use disorders and hearing loss who need effective communication in treatment and recovery services.

3

Support behavioral health and wellness of the

75 * Deaf or Hard of Hearing children and families

involved with/at risk of involvement with child welfare.

https://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/dhhs.aspx chfs,ky.gov governor.ky.gov



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